

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East GermanyREPORTTOPIC Return from an Exercise of Units of the 20th Gds Mecz Div

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 October 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 24 September 1955, 37 T-34/85 tanks 2 25X1  
salvage tanks, 3 SU-100 guns, 2 four-wheel armored personnel carriers and 4  
tank trucks went from the Zeitz railroad station to the Artillerie Kaserne  
(8542) in Zeitz. Eight trucks shuttled ammunition, barrels and billeting  
equipment from the station to the installation. 25X1

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On 25 September, the installation was almost fully ~~lighted~~. Thirty-five tanks  
and 3 SU-100 guns were seen in the garages.

2. On 25 September, the Infanterie Kaserne (8541) in Zeitz was occupied by  
approximately 600 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets and 150 soldiers  
wearing red-bordered black epaulets. At 0700, 6 T-34/85 tanks entered the  
installation from the direction of the Zeitz Forest. At about 1000, a rocket  
launcher unit with 8 rocket launchers, presumably of model M-13, on new two-axle  
ZIS trucks, and occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with  
artillery insignia, 2 four-wheel armored personnel carriers and 4 trucks entered  
the installation from the direction of the Zeitz Forest and were welcomed by a  
military band. Between 1500 and 1700, the following weapons and vehicles entered  
the installation from the same direction: 12 trucks towing 12 x 57-mm AT guns  
and each occupied by 18 to 20 soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets; 25X1  
3 trucks towing 3 x 76-mm field guns, 8 trucks towing 8 x 120-mm mortars,  
40 trucks with ammunition, barrels and billeting equipment and 3 tank trucks.  
The motor vehicle numbers could not be determined, since they were heavily soiled.  
On 26 September, 25X1

3. Between 17 and 24 September, large elements of the units absent from Weimar  
returned by road, usually in small groups. The following units were observed:

17 September. A truck towing a gun of 100 and 130 mm and coming from a 25X1  
westerly ~~widirection~~ entered the Tannenberg Kaserne (8502).

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23 September. Two trucks, each occupied by 20 soldiers with full field equipment, entered the Tannenberg Kaserne in the morning. Two T-34/85 tanks entered the Flak Kaserne (8501) from a westerly direction in the evening.

24 September. Three T-34/85 tanks entered the Flak Kaserne from a westerly direction in the afternoon. Judging from imprints of tank tracks, additional tanks returned in the meantime.

24 September. At noon, a column of some 60 motor vehicles, including field kitchens, tank trucks and ambulances, 11 guns of 110 to 130 mm and 8 heavy mortars arrived from a westerly direction. Each truck was occupied by 20 soldiers. It could not be determined to which installation the column went. Except for the Flak Kaserne, the Weimar installations appeared to be occupied to capacity again.

On 21 September, 47 converted boxcars were assembled at the Weimar freight station, allegedly for the retransfer of discharges.<sup>4</sup>

1. Comment. Elements of the 36th Gds Tank Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div returned presumably from a divisional exercise which was probably held in the area between Ohrdruf and the posts of the division between 19 and 24 September. Tank turret belong possibly, to the 36th Gds Tank Regt.
2. Comment. The 67th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div carried in the Infanterie Kaserne, the bulk of which was believed to be stationed in the summer camp at Ohrdruf, presumably participated in the divisional exercise and apparently returned to the post on 25 September.
3. Comment. It can be assumed that the elements of the 20th Gds Mecz Div from Weimar also returned to the post after having participated in the division exercise.
4. Comment. It has not been observed so far that the quarters for discharges in the Tannenberg Kaserne were occupied or that a major number of discharges left Weimar.

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